



**Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Workforce Investment Board**

**Executive Director's Report
February 17, 2010**

The next AWIB meeting is scheduled for February 22nd and 23rd in Juneau at Centennial Hall. The agenda includes an update on the draft Healthcare Workforce Development Plan, briefings from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, a Gasline Training Plan update, a statewide CTE Plan update, an RTC/RAC update, time allocated for review of proposed STEP regulations, and presentation of the vocational administrator/instructor of the year awards.

A STEP Task Force meeting was held on February 5th by teleconference to review the proposed changes to the STEP regulations. An hour is allocated for public comment for an oral hearing on February 22, 2010 at the AWIB meeting regarding the proposed changes to the STEP regulations. The AWIB will review the proposed STEP regulations on February 23rd, and consider a resolution to approve the STEP regulations.

A Gasline Training Plan Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th in Juneau. The Committee will be reviewing the Gasline Training Plan Implementation Schedule, action to date on the four strategies contained in the Plan, and a budget and expenditure update. The Committee will also be reviewing project and manpower updates from TransCanada and Denali, and updates from training providers including the University of Alaska, AVTEC, Regional Training Centers, Alaska Works Partnership, and the Fairbank Pipeline Training Center.

A Career and Technical Education (CTE) Work Group meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 25th in Juneau. Commissioners Bishop and LeDoux, representatives from secondary and postsecondary education, the AWIB Chair, and the State Board of Education Chair are working with Jeff Selvey and Helen Mehrkens to develop a statewide CTE plan. The purpose of the meetings are to develop a unified CTE plan for youth and adults, deliver a high quality CTE system that provides state of the art preparation for all Alaskans to attain a sustainable career, and enhance and expand CTE programs in Alaska. The plan identifies strategies for the Alaska Career and Technical Education Plan, identifies key action steps and a timeline for monitoring progress of the State CTE Plan, identifies the mission of CTE within Alaska's Education and Workforce Development systems, and reviews the status of new and ongoing CTE initiatives and partnerships. A considerable amount of work has been completed on the State CTE Plan, and an update will be provided at the February AWIB meeting.

The U.S. Department of Labor announced that the Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership (ASESP) and Training Grant application was awarded in the amount of

\$3,600,000 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with a starting date of January 29, 2010. The grant proposes to train over 700 workers over the next three years to increase the supply of workers with energy-efficiency skills to support energy efficient end user technology and the hydroelectric, wind turbine, geothermal, and biomass industries. The grant application identifies the ASEP to serve as the steering committee throughout the life of the grant to participate in the planning, support, and implementation of the State's energy sector strategy. The application further states that the AWIB will lead the ASEP and serve as the managing partner responsible for coordination and management of the partnership, including overall planning, implementation, oversight, and technical assistance of the ASEP operations and project teams. The ASEP will be meeting on Thursday, March 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to determine the need for additional participants, complete the strategic planning process, and review the project implementation timeline.

The Executive Committee selected Melissa Reese from Valdez High School as the recipient of the Secondary Vocational Training Instructor of the Year and Tom Minder from the Alaska Joint Electrical Apprenticeship Training Trust as the recipient of the Postsecondary Vocational Training Administrator of the Year. Both awards will be presented at the AWIB meeting in Juneau on February 23rd.

Committees

- The next Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9th at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Workforce Readiness/Employment Placement Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 17th at 3:00 p.m.
- The next Assessment and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 18th at 3:00 p.m.
- The next Policy and Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25th at 10:00 a.m.

Important Dates

- The next AWIB meeting is scheduled for February 22nd and 23rd, 2010 in Juneau.
- The next Gasline Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for February 24th in Juneau.

- The next CTE Work Group meeting is scheduled for February 25th in Juneau.
- The next Regional Training Center meeting is scheduled for March 1st and 2nd in Anchorage.
- Apprenticeship Award nominations are open through March 15, 2010.
- **Public Official Financial Disclosure Forms are due to APOC by March 15, 2010.**
- The Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Anchorage.
- A Regional Training Center meeting is scheduled for April 26th and 27th in Anchorage.
- The Apprenticeship Conference is scheduled for April 28, 2010 in Anchorage.
- The ACTE Region V Conference is scheduled for April 29th through May 1st in Anchorage.
- The May AWIB meeting date has been set for May 3rd and 4th, 2010 in Anchorage.
- The Alaska Strategic State Plan for Title 1 of WIA and the Wagner-Peyser Act is due to the U.S. Department of Labor prior to the expiration of the current Plan on June 30, 2010.
- The WIA Annual Report is due to the U.S. Department of Labor October 1, 2010.
- The October AWIB meeting date has been set for October 25th and 26th, 2010.